

**Island County Board of Health
Special Meeting - Tuesday, February 21, 2012
Minutes**

DUE TO THE UNAVAILABILITY OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT FOR TODAY'S MEETING, MINUTES ARE IN HARD COPY FORMAT ONLY. THERE IS NO AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING.

Members Present: Commissioners Angie Homola, Helen Price Johnson and Kelly Emerson; Scott Dudley, Mayor of Oak Harbor; Captain Susan Lichtenstein, MSC, USN, Ex-Officio Member; and, Roger S. Case, MD, Executive Secretary to the Board.

Members Absent: Anne Tarrant, Whidbey General Hospital.

Call to Order: Chair Angie Homola called this Special Meeting of the Island County Board of Health to order at 1:18 p.m.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes or additions to the agenda. As this is a Special Session, only those items on the announced agenda may be acted upon at this session.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Homola called for approval of the minutes of the January 17, 2011 Special Session. Dr. Case noted that he was not in attendance at the January 17th meeting and was incorrectly noted as having attended. Commissioner Homola asked for two additional corrections: (1) The percentage of reduction to the Health Department budget was noted as '38%' and should be noted as '32%', and; (2) Under 'Legislative Updates', Commissioner Price Johnson was referenced incorrectly as 'Commissioner Johnson'. Commissioner Price Johnson moved to approve the minutes with the noted corrections. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Input or Comments: The Chair invited members of the public who wished to provide input or make comments to indicate their wish to do so. Because this is a Special Session of the Board of Health, only those items on the announced agenda may be acted upon by the Board. There were no requests to address the Board.

Appointment to the Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB): Keith Higman, Health Services Director, advised the Board of his and the CHAB leadership's strong recommendation that CAPT Laurell Brault, USN (Retired) be appointed to a 3-year term on the Community Health Advisory Board. Ms. Brault comes to CHAB with a very comprehensive educational, military education, and professional background and is willing to share her time and talent serving on the CHAB. The Board unanimously approved Ms. Brault's appointment to the CHAB for a 3-year term.

Advisory Board, Community Agency, and Health Partner Reports:

Island County Human Services – Jackie Henderson, Human Services Director, told the Board that Island County Human Services provides services and support, either directly or indirectly, to over 10,000 Island County residents every year on a 2012 budget of about \$3 Million. None of her department's funding comes from current expense/general fund money. Ms. Henderson gave a brief overview of her diverse programs and discussed the potential impact to her department resulting from possible State budget cuts. Commissioner Homola asked about the work load at the Chemical Dependency Center in Oak Harbor. Ms. Henderson advised that persons referred wait about 1 week for an assessment and that the Center is now licensed to do DUI assessments. Commissioner Price Johnson asked about how many South Whidbey citizens travel to Oak Harbor for dependency service? Ms. Henderson thought that out of 160 clients, about 35 are from the South Whidbey.

Island County Community Network – Vivian Rogers Decker, Director of the Network, told the Board that she was new to the position. She reminded the Board that the Network's purpose is to foster communication in the community around issues to facilitate coordinated action. Current projects include 'Fostering Together' and funding orientations/trainings on the "ACE" (Adverse Childhood Experience) language. The premise of ACE is that an accumulation of adverse issues in one's childhood will adversely impact health outcomes and this impacts the community. They will be using the data from the BRFSS that will soon be conducted to further target trainings in the Island County.

Opportunity Council (Island County) – Lisa Clark told the Board that 2011 was a year of transitions for the Opportunity Council. 39% of their clients are citizens using Opportunity Council services for the first time. Many are coming to the end of their unemployment benefits or retirement options. 36% of the individuals that seek OC program assistance are employed but still meet income qualification for assistance. Many times an adverse life event starts the cycle. OC has received federal funds for supportive services for veterans, many of whom are Viet Nam era veterans. Island County Public Health contracts with the OC to income-qualify individuals for financial assistance for septic inspections. The OC fielded 5,000 individual, non-duplicated calls last year. In response to a question by Commissioner Homola, Ms. Clark told the Board that the majority of OC funding comes from government funding, including the Department of Commerce, and also includes United Way, recording fees, and donations.

Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) – David Macys advised that CHAB will be involved in BRFSS data collection efforts to judge where activities should focus. The CDC/BRFSS will be conducted in Washington State and CHAB will be working with Island County Public Health on oversample questions targeted in Island County. He reminded the Board of their important participation in the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero Awards which will be held on May 21st. Mr. Macys noted that a copy of CHAB's Position Paper was included in the Board's meeting packets. CHAB is developing a recommendation to bring to the Board regarding possible expansion of the Island County Board of Health. He invited Board members to make input to CHAB towards that recommendation. Trish Rose joined Mr. Macys to comment on two of the draft recommendations: 1) Rotating the mayoral position would allow representation to other Island County cities, and; 2) Would offer a seat to bring professional public health expertise to the Board. Commissioner Price Johnson commented that she thinks ex-officio roles would be ok but that voting privilege should be limited to elected officials. Ms. Rose told the Board that comparable sized communities had 7-member boards. CHAB is still working on the recommendation which will be presented formally at a future Board of Health meeting.

Note: Commissioner Emerson left the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and was not in attendance for the remainder of the meeting.

House Bill 2130 – Dr. Case, Island County Health Officer, explained the impact of possible passage of HB2130 on the rural hospital system and Whidbey General Hospital which is a part of that system. The bill would have eliminated cost-based reimbursement now afforded to Washington's Critical Access Hospitals and Rural Health Clinics. Even though the bill had not passed out of committee in this legislative session, he urged the Board to send a letter voicing their opposition. Mayor Dudley asked about how reimbursement currently worked and Dr. Case answered that Medicare currently reimburses on a fee-for-service basis. Commissioner Price Johnson moved to support the Board sending a letter to the Washington Legislature in opposition. Commissioner Homola seconded. Mayor Dudley was opposed. The votes in favor carried the motion.

Contracts: Keith Higman presented contracts to the Board for their consideration:

1. Whidbey Watershed Stewards – Maxwellton Watershed Education & Outreach
Contract No. HD-06-12
Contract Amount: \$ 3,000

Commissioner Price Johnson moved that Contract HD-06-12 be approved as presented. Mayor Dudley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

2. ICF Macro, Inc. – Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) Oversample
Purchase Order No. 9515
Contract Amount: \$ 18,163

Commissioner Price Johnson moved that Purchase Order No. 9515 be approved as presented. Mayor Dudley seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Legislative Updates: Keith Higman told the Board that there was some good news coming from Olympia. The General Fund revenue forecast is up and service consumption is down. A draft house budget came out this morning but it is just one piece of the puzzle.

Health Department Report: Mr. Higman told the Board that the annual Linda Lee Martens Health Hero Awards hosted by CHAB have been scheduled. That event is held as a joint CHAB/Special Board of Health meeting and this year will be held on May 21st. He asked the Board to think about possible nominations.

State WIC has approved, as of 4/1, an increase to Island County's client caseload that will make up the budget deficit in the 2012 WIC budget. He also advised that the Noro-like virus that affected the individuals who attended the State cheerleading conference did affect Island County. An Oak Harbor group was in attendance. Island County Public Health was acknowledged by a Department of Health letter to the Board's Chair for successfully using federal stimulus money for a program success story, the Island County Walking School Bus Program.

Adjourn: There being no further business before the Board, Chair Angie Homola adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Health will be a Regular Session held on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 1:15 p.m. in the Commissioner's Hearing Room (B102) in the Court House Annex Building.

Submitted: _____
Roger S. Case, MD
Executive Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved this 19th day of March 2012
ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Angie Homola, Chair